

## REMARKS

Claims 10, 12-14, 17, 28-31, 40-59, 61-64, 66-67, 69, 71-73, 78, 82-84, 87-89, 92, 94, 96-97, 99, 101-103, and 107-112 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in one or more continuation applications.

Applicants have amended claims 27, 81, 98 and 100. Applicants submit the amendments are supported throughout the specification and the originally filed claims.

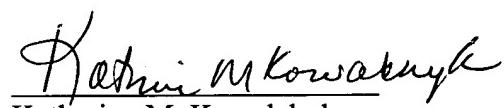
## SUMMARY

Applicants submit that the claims of the present application are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below, if the Examiner believes that doing so will advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

September 10, 2004  
Date

  
Katherine M. Kowalchyk  
Katherine M. Kowalchyk  
Reg. No. 36,848

